

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROBERT CROSSK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness but with fond memories that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mr. Robert Crossk, former Hobart City and Lake County Councilman. Bob's service to the people of Northwest Indiana is worthy of our deepest admiration. Mr. Crossk passed away at the age of 86 on Sunday, January 27, 2019, but the impact he has had on his community will live on for generations to come.

Robert Crossk epitomized what it means to be a civil servant, working tirelessly and without self-interest for all the residents of Lake County, Indiana. Mr. Crossk served on the Hobart City Council from 1979 to 1983 before his election to the Lake County Council. Councilman Crossk went on to represent the sixth district of Lake County from 1983 to 1998. Bob was a remarkable civic leader who was known for his hard work, dedication, and integrity. A union man by trade, Bob was a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 for much of his life. Mr. Crossk also devoted much of his energy to charitable organizations such as the Knights of Columbus and Veterans of Foreign Wars. For his passionate dedication to helping others throughout his lifetime, Bob Crossk is truly worthy of the highest praise.

Robert Crossk leaves to cherish his memory a loving family. He is survived by his wonderful wife, Gladys, and their four beloved daughters, two sons, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, not to mention many other dear friends and family members whose lives have been enriched by having known him. Bob will also be forever remembered by a grateful community of Lake County residents who he selflessly served with distinction for so many years.

I especially want to note that I have known Bob for my entire life. For every one of those days, I have only known Mr. Crossk to be a gentleman, possessed an expansive and warm personality, and an unflagging generosity of spirit. My life has been enriched because Robert Crossk assisted me along the path of life.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Robert Crossk for his outstanding devotion to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond. Bob's life of service is to be commended, and his unwavering commitment to making the region a better place will serve as an inspiration to us all.

RECOGNIZING JOHN W. ROGERS, JR. FOR EXCEPTIONAL CON- TRIBUTIONS TO CIVIC LIFE

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize John W. Rogers, Jr. for his lifetime of service to the people of the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, and to our nation. As a business leader, philanthropist, and tireless advocate for opening new opportunities for people of color, John has a history of exceptional contributions to our civic life that continue to the present day.

Born and raised in the City of Chicago, John Rogers, Jr. is the product of parents notable for their own achievements: his father was a judge and former Tuskegee Airman, and his mother was the first African-American woman to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School and to argue a case before the United States Supreme Court. After completing his secondary education at the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, John attended Princeton University where he earned a degree in Economics and co-captained the school's Ivy League championship varsity basketball team. His interest in finance can be traced to a gift of stock for his 12th birthday, a present that ignited a lifelong fascination with investment and the complexities of financial valuation.

After two years working as a stockbroker at a Chicago investment banking firm, John launched an investment fund informed by his understanding that the highest returns are generated by patience and a research-driven approach to uncovering hidden value. That methodology has built Ariel Investments, LLC into a highly respected firm employing more than 100 analysts and staff and managing more than \$11 billion in assets. John's financial acumen is valued by the boards of directors of some of our nation's largest and most consequential enterprises, including the New York Times Company, Exelon and Nike.

The achievements of John Rogers, Jr. are not limited to the world of finance—his civic engagement extends to cultural institutions (he is a life trustee of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra), and he has been a bold champion committed to strengthening underserved communities and addressing inequities experienced by people of color. He is the first African-American recipient of Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson award, recognizing his service to the Princeton University alumni community and to organizations including the Chicago Urban League (where he is a life director), the Rainbow PUSH Coalition Wall Street Project, and Project Vote (an organization dedicated to enfranchising underserved communities and empowering individuals to exercise their constitutional right to vote). He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the University of Chicago Laboratory

Schools, is a trustee of the University of Chicago, and, either personally or through Ariel Investments, generously endowed scholarships for under-resourced students at the Laboratory Schools, provided seed money to underwrite an investment fund that introduces financial management to students at Ariel Community Academy (a K–8 school in the Chicago Public School system), and funded a finance internship program for University of Chicago students of color interested in careers in financial services. John also serves on the Board of Directors for the Obama Foundation, where he works to help build the next generation of civic leaders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the grateful citizens of Illinois, I want to thank John W. Rogers, Jr. for all that he has done and all that he continues to do to improve our nation and to open opportunities historically inaccessible to communities of color.

RECOGNIZING JACK STENSWICK OF MALTA

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Stenswick of Malta who serves as his town's goodwill ambassador.

A lifelong Malta resident, Jack is one of the town's most known and loved figures. He warmly greets and talks with everyone he sees, whether he's walking around town or riding his three-wheel cycle, a gift from the people of Malta.

"Jack definitely embodies the spirit of Montana," says Dina Sainato-Meneely, Executive Director at Malta Opportunities, Inc. (MOI). "He's so well-known, and well-liked that it might take him all afternoon to go to the store and back. He is undoubtedly our town's goodwill ambassador, and certainly a good ambassador for people with developmental disabilities."

Though developmental disabilities may present challenges, Jack Stenswick overcomes them and has never allowed them to limit his natural ability to make others feel welcome and loved.

A member of the Knights of Columbus, Jack volunteers for local service projects through the organization and his local church. Supporting almost every civic event, celebration, or activity in town, he greets everyone by name and shares the joy of their friendship.

"Anybody who has been to Malta will know Jack, and you can't help but like him," says Dave Rummel, who helps supervise Jack as a groundskeeper for the cemetery, one of the many places Jack has worked in Malta through MOI.

"He's Malta's unofficial town greeter," Rummel said. "Everyone likes to spend time with him. Even folks from miles away remember Jack and are always glad to see him."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Madam Speaker, for overcoming the challenges he has faced to serve as a beloved pillar of Malta and the town's goodwill ambassador, I recognize Jack Stenswick for his spirit of Montana.

CELEBRATING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 101st anniversary of Lithuanian independence. It is an honor to recognize a nation with such rich and vibrant history and whose immigrants and descendants have enriched the cultural landscape of our nation.

Chicagoland is fortunate to be home to the largest Lithuanian diaspora population in the world. With Little Lithuania on the Southwest Side of Chicago and a significant part of the community in Lemont and Cicero, I am proud to represent a part of this heritage. The celebration of Lithuania's 101st anniversary pays due respect to the signing of Lithuania's Act of Independence on February 16, 1918, an act that sought to restore an independent state. Although true independence was not achieved until after World War I and the fall of the German Empire, this single rebellious act paved the way for what has become a free and democratically governed state. Lithuanian-Americans have reason to celebrate their heritage proudly.

One such place where Chicagoan Lithuanians have found a home is in Marquette Park at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, founded by Lithuanian immigrants in 1927. A beautiful new church was constructed in 1957 incorporating influences from the Lithuanian folk baroque style and Lithuanian folk art. This includes a gold-plated reproduction of the Virgin Mary from a shrine in Siluva, Lithuania. Now led by Pastor Juanius Kelpšas and Father Gediminas Keršys, this beautiful church continues to receive numerous parishioners and visitors, each bearing witness to a rich component of Lithuanian-American history.

In 2015 I had the opportunity to visit Lithuania with a congressional delegation led by then-Speaker Boehner to celebrate and strengthen the bonds between our countries. I had a wonderful experience meeting Lithuanians and enjoying the beauty of the country in Vilnius and on the Baltic Coast. One of my most cherished memories was my visit to Our Lady of the Gate of Dawn.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Lithuanian Independence Day. At home, I have witnessed firsthand the positive contributions Lithuanian-Americans bring to our local community, and I trust that the bonds between our two nations will remain strong.

PAWEŁ ADAMOWICZ DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of Mayor Paweł Adamowicz

of Gdansk, Poland, who was tragically murdered just a few weeks ago.

Mayor Adamowicz was a powerful voice for liberty in Poland, and always acted with the best interests of his people at heart.

A resurgent Russia seeks to undermine transatlantic solidarity and Western resolve. In the face of transatlantic challenges, we must strengthen U.S.-Polish relations.

That is why we must extend a hand of friendship to the next generation of democratic, transatlantic leaders. These shared democratic values go back to our nations' founding, and are critical to liberty in Europe today.

I am honored to introduce legislation to establish the "Paweł Adamowicz Democratic Leadership Exchange Act." This program would equip the next generation of leaders with the skills and networks needed to strengthen transatlantic relationships.

In honor of Mayor Adamowicz's legacy, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. I ask that it be brought to the floor for a vote without delay.

IN RECOGNITION OF TEXAS SENATOR JANE NELSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my friend Texas State Senator Jane Nelson. On Tuesday, January 8, 2018, Senator Nelson gaveled in the first day of the Texas Senate, becoming the first woman to usher in the opening session.

Senator Nelson is a true trailblazer. First elected in 1993, she is the highest-ranking Republican in the Texas Senate. During her tenure, Senator Nelson has led efforts to promote fiscal responsibility, strengthen education, and care for Texas veterans. She made history in 2013 when she was appointed as the first woman to chair the Texas Senate Committee on Finance, and in this role continues to oversee the creation of the Texas budget.

Senator Nelson lives in Flower Mound and represents portions of Denton and Tarrant Counties. A former teacher and fellow University of North Texas alum, she previously served two terms on the State Board of Education. As a public servant and longtime North Texas fixture, Senator Nelson is deeply committed to our community. I am grateful for her many years of service, and I congratulate her on this groundbreaking achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I missed votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 78; nay on Roll Call No. 79; and yea on Roll Call No. 80.

DEER TRAIL RODEO'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Town of Deer Trail, Colorado for commemorating its 150th year of rodeo competition.

The first rodeo in the world was held in Deer Trail, Colorado on July 4, 1869. Multiple organizations, including the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, History Channel, and Guinness Book of World Records have recognized this milestone. Deer Trail should be appropriately recognized for fostering and promoting rodeo, and thereby helping to preserve our Western culture.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to the Deer Trail Rodeo. We look forward to their continued success.

VETERAN OF THE MONTH—DR. CLARENCE G. OLIVER, JR.

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Clarence G. Oliver, Jr. of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Dr. Oliver has worn many hats. He's been a teacher, journalist, school administrator, Army officer, newspaper editor and publisher, community leader, university professor, author, and the Dean of Education at Oral Roberts University.

In all of these roles, Dr. Oliver has proven himself to be a service-minded leader and a role model for many.

An American hero, Dr. Oliver served our country as an Infantry master sergeant during the Korean War. He received a direct appointment as a second lieutenant, Infantry, in 1952 and served in command and staff assignments for two decades, plus another 10 years in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Dr. Oliver's career of service extends far beyond his military accomplishments.

He was superintendent of one of Oklahoma's fastest-growing schools and served as an administrator for 30 years. After serving as the Dean of Education at ORU, he continues to volunteer as an adjunct professor and guest lecturer and serves on doctoral degree dissertation committees.

Dr. Oliver was twice chosen as the Oklahoma Superintendent of the Year.

The Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce recognized him as the "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" in 1975 and again in 1992 and awarded with the Chamber's "Legacy" award in 2011. In 2015, the Chamber created the "Dr. Clarence G. Oliver, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award", further testament to the impact Dr. Oliver continues to have on his community.

I am honored to recognize Dr. Oliver today for his service both in our military and as a citizen and educator, and I am honored to call him my friend.